



News Release

STATE OF MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

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Division of Parole and Probation's Proactive Community Supervision Wins Public Service Award

American Society for Public Administration Honors DPP
and its Leader Judith Sachwald With Public Service Awards

TOWSON, MD (May 15, 2007) ---The Maryland Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration has awarded the Maryland Division of Parole and Probation's *Proactive Community Supervision (PCS)* a State Agency Award for Innovation in Public Service, and Judith Sachwald, the Division's Director, an individual Innovation in Public Service award. Using the PCS strategy for offender management – researchers found that re-arrest rates and technical violations have been reduced by 38%.

In 2006, the University of Maryland and Virginia Commonwealth University presented to the Maryland Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) ***Proactive Community Supervision in Maryland: Changing Offender Outcomes***, an outcome evaluation that compares traditional probation to the new Proactive Community Supervision in Maryland. "By reducing re-arrest rates and technical violations, this new model of community supervision has the potential to reduce the number of people turning in-and-out of the prison system, reduce recidivism, and promote safer and healthier Maryland communities," says Jason Ziedenberg, Executive Director of The Justice Policy Institute.

PCS has three goals: protect public safety, hold offenders accountable to victims and the community, and help offenders become responsible and productive. "Achieving these goals can only be done by putting the research into practice and by having employees who are willing to really work with offenders to change their lives. This report and this award is a demonstration of the incredible work that parole and probation agents do in Maryland," says Judith Sachwald, Maryland DPP Director.

"The implementation of PCS by DPP is not only what the parole and probation agencies should strive to do across the nation, but it is a testament of wise and courageous leadership. Knowing what the research suggests should be done, actually doing it, and subjecting the efforts to evaluation rarely happens in our politically charged world," says Carl Wicklund, Executive Director, American Probation and Parole Association.

For a copy of the report please log on to the DPSCS website and click the link to publications: <http://www.dpscs.state.md.us/publicinfo/publications/research.shtml#dpp> .

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